

Make a photo display

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Show off your snapshots in a collage.

PHOTOGRAPHS WERE MEANT to be seen, not hidden.

So why keep your best shots in an album stuck in a drawer? With a little woodworking skill, you can display your photos in a collage that can be hung on a wall for everyone to enjoy.

You'll need

- a piece of 1/8- or 1/4-inch plywood, any size you choose
- drill
- keyhole saw or coping saw
- cardboard
- sandpaper

Start by making cardboard templates, or patterns, to fit your photos. The templates can be square, rectangular, round or oval. Make them smaller than the photos so you aren't left with gaps between picture and frame.

Place the templates on your board and move them around until you come up with



The finished collage, ready for hanging.

a good-looking layout. It's best to mix shapes. But keep the larger ones near the

bottom. Leave at least 1/2 inch between templates.

Next, trace around the templates on the plywood. In the waste area of each pattern, drill a hole. Insert a keyhole saw and cut out to the pencil line. Then saw around the pattern. You can also use a coping saw. A power saber saw makes sawing even easier.

Sand the freshly cut edges, being careful to avoid splintering the plywood. Finish with stain and/or varnish.

Now, the fun part.

Fasten your photographs to the back of your display with rubber cement or tape. Secure them lightly. You may want to change photos from time to time.

Tape or tack a piece of stiff cardboard across the back of the board to firm up the photos.

Mounting your collage board in a frame will make it even nicer to hang on the wall. ♣

